

The Signature

Vol. 19 No. 22

Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily

Friday, June 7, 2002

Travelers with endangered species often fined

By Robert Szostek,
USEUCOM Customs PAO

Customs officials advise service members and civilians to avoid buying wildlife items while vacationing at exotic locations this summer. International law protects hundreds of animal and plant species threatened with extinction. Products made from endangered species are commonly sold abroad but are banned from export to or import into other countries. U.S. or foreign customs authorities can issue severe fines to people caught with these items.

"Travelers may not take live specimens, parts or products of protected animals and plants across international frontiers unless they owned them before the species was declared endangered," said Michael L. Burkert of the European Command's Customs Executive Agency. "Prohibited goods include rugs, pelts or trophies made from the skins and furs of rare animals such as the cheetah, jaguar, ocelot, and tiger," he added.

Also outlawed are ivory and whale teeth products, and shoes, bags or belts made from crocodiles, sea turtles and many reptiles. Many wild birds are protected too, so be wary of mounted birds and pictures, clothes, headbands or curios decorated with feathers and skins. Things made from seal, whale, porpoise, walrus, sea otter, polar bear and manatee skins may not be imported either. Whole shells, shell jewelry, soup and facial creams made from sea turtles are similarly banned. Burkert added that even some plants such as orchids are not allowed to be moved internationally. Travelers are also restricted to having only half a pound of caviar when crossing international borders. Confused? Consult with the military customs office or the Customs Executive Agency web site at www.hqusaureur.army.mil/opm/customs.htm.

NEX/DECA Complex open for business



Photo by JOC(SW) Priscilla Kirsh

As the first phase of the NAS Sigonella Quality of Life Recapitalization, the Navy Exchange and Commissary Store Complex opened, May 31. The \$20 million facility replaced eight stores on NAS I, including the barber shop, florist, video rentals, 7-day, and also added an open food court with Del Taco, Subway, Volcano Pizza and Popeyes Chicken. The complex also included a parking lot that holds 386 cars.

The new Commissary/NEX is not only bigger than the stores of the past, but also has increased the quantity of line items they'll carry.

To the left, the official ribbon cutting ceremony soon led to the overcrowding of hundreds of Sigonella customers. Below, Steven Decatur Elementary students sing during the arrival of the Official Party while the Stephen Decatur band provide the music.



Photo by J03 Jay Price

Profanity: words and professionalism

By MMC(SW) Dan Mainwaring
Assistant Command Managed Equal Opportunity Officer

There have been many times that I have been somewhere on base only to be surprised to hear a barrage of profanity or degrading language coming from someone not too far away. I am also surprised to notice how frequently this type of behavior occurs. This is not just confined to the departments and office spaces, but also in areas that our families, especially children, are within earshot of the conversation.

All of us here are part of a larger team; it is everyone's responsibility from the most junior airman to the most senior officer not to condone this type of language as an everyday common occurrence in our workspaces, public areas on base, or in the communities we live in.

It may be more socially acceptable to use this kind of language in our society as a whole, but as military members we are governed by a different set of rules than the average American. We have agreed to uphold a higher standard for ourselves and for our shipmates through the Navy core values of Honor, Courage and Commitment. We are held to those standards by Navy Regulations and the UCMJ to maintain good order and discipline. Profanity and degrading language undermine good

order and discipline, and typically offends other people.

The following Navy Regulation and UCMJ articles govern our use of profanity and degrading language.

Regulation 1164. Equal Opportunity and Treatment. Equal opportunity shall be afforded to all on the basis of individual effort, performance, conduct, diligence, potential, capabilities and talents without discrimination as to race, color, religion, creed, sex or national origin. Naval personnel shall demonstrate a strong personal commitment to stand on these principles and carry them out.

UCMJ Art. 91. Insubordinate conduct toward warrant officer, noncommissioned officer, or petty officer. Any warrant officer or enlisted member who; (1) strikes or assaults a warrant officer, noncommissioned officer, or petty officer, while that officer is in the execution of his office; (2) willfully disobeys the lawful order of a warrant officer, noncommissioned officer, or petty officer; or (3) treats with contempt or is disrespectful in language or deportment toward a warrant officer, noncommissioned officer, or petty officer while that officer is in the execution of his office; shall be punished as a court-martial may direct.

UCMJ Art. 117. Provoking

speeches or gestures. Any person subject to this chapter who uses provoking or reproachful words or gestures toward any other person subject to this chapter shall be punished as a court-martial may direct.

UCMJ Art. 134. General article.

Though not specifically mentioned in this chapter, all disorders and neglects to the prejudice of good order and discipline in the armed forces, all conduct of a nature to bring discredit upon the armed forces, and crimes and offenses not capital, of which persons subject to this chapter may be guilty, shall be taken cognizance of by a general, special, or summary court-martial, according to the nature and degree of the offense, and shall be punished at the discretion of that court.

The NAS Sigonella Command Managed Equal Opportunity (CMEO) Program is dedicated to making our lives here better. We continually work to ensure we have a positive command climate, but it takes everyone on base to be successful. It is everyone's job, especially those of us in any type of leadership role. Each and every one of us should monitor ourselves and correct others when we hear this type of behavior occurring, wherever we may be.

NASSIG, 41st Stormo beat the heat



Photo by J03 Jay Price

NASSIG's Fire Fighters, both American and Italian, train with the 41st Stormo in a basic training maneuver. The 41st Stormo keeps the area cool with their air field fire truck to keep the cement from bursting and cracking.

The mission was to train both the Italian Air Force 41st Stormo and NASSIG's Fire Department on different methods of fighting and rescues.

Together, they plan to participate in many more training missions to better familiarize and compliment each other.

Inside this Edition

Direct Line... page 2

Navy News... page 3

Italian News... page 4

Liberty Call... page 5

AFN Lineup... page 8

Il Mercato... page 11

Italian phrase of the week...

Incontrerai i tuoi amici
stasera?



(Are you going to meet your friends tonight?)

SECURITY BLOTTER



Helping make the
community aware

CRIME STOPPER'S HOTLINE 624-6389

May 28 - June 2

The following incidents were reported and categorized as follows:

Traffic accidents without injuries - 8

Traffic accident with injuries - 0

Car break-ins - 3

DUI - 0

DUI's 2002 - 13

DUI's 2001 - 33

The
Signature

The Signature editorial office is located at:
Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily
PSC 812 Box 3020
FPO AE 09627.
Telephone: 095-86-5440; DSN 624-5440

Commanding Officer
Capt. Timothy L. Davison

Public Affairs Officer
Lt. Amy Derrick
aderrick@nassig.sicily.navy.mil

Deputy Public Affairs Officer
JOC(SW) Priscilla Kirsh
pkirsh@nassig.sicily.navy.mil

Managing Editor
JO3 Jay Price

Editor
JOSN Bridgette Bolt


Staff Writer
SN Michelle Watkins

Community Relations
Alberto Lunetta

This civilian enterprise (CE) newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the military services overseas. Contents of *The Signature* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the United States Navy. The appearance of advertising in this newspaper, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense or *City Crier, Inc.*, of the products or services advertised. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. A confirmed violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser will result in the refusal to print advertising from that source until the violation is corrected. *The Signature* is published weekly by *City Crier, Inc.*, PSC 812 Box 3020, Shawn Kelley, Publisher. Telephone: 349-391-6027. Editorial submissions are welcomed from all NAS Sigonella departments, divisions and tenant commands. Editorial submissions should be sent to the Public Affairs Office via e-mail at any of the addresses located below the staff's names, guard mail stop #68 or hand-delivered no later than close of business Friday preceeding expected publication date. All advertisements in this publication are the property of City Crier, Inc. Any reproduction of advertisements in *The Signature* is unauthorized without the written consent of the publisher.

Direct Line

Capt. Tim Davison, NASSIG
Commanding Officer



We reside on an operational military base in a foreign country and are currently at war with terrorism. We are ambassadors for America living here in Italy, we are here proudly representing our country, our way of life and are committed to supporting and defending the interests of the United States and NATO.

We are not living in a small suburb somewhere in the US with the time or luxury of tolerating unproductive, immature and rude behavior. The rights of the entire community here outweigh the misguided belief of any Sigonellan, no matter what the age, who thinks he or she has the right to not respect the good order and discipline of this Naval Air Station.

I'm specifically addressing the continuing problem of the inappropriate behavior of a small strata of our adolescent dependents who feel they have a right to destroy community or personal property or to behave rudely or disrespectfully to their peers, teachers, adults, local nationals, Italian authorities, their parents, base security or military personnel on duty.

This command has the responsibility to the entire Sigonella community and our host nation to prevent and punish the recent egregious behavior that has taken place on base and out at Mineo. I will continue to hold military members responsible for the conduct of their dependents. Parents will be held accountable for their children. Being here is a privilege, not a right, and if any individual's actions interfere with our mission accomplishment, our collective Quality of Service/Work/Life, or our working relationships within our base or with our host nation, the command has the legal authority and moral responsibility to take immediate and appropriate action.

I regret having to lecture the entire community; I'm only speaking about a very small minority of kids here, but they are making things bad for all of us, and especially their peers. The XO has recently banned unaccompanied minors from the HTW buses (he does have that authority) because of the continued and unbelievable rude behavior of a handful of kids, and unfortunately the majority of kids therefore suffer. Any bus driver on our school buses who feels that any behavior on a bus becomes out of control and is detrimental to the safety of the occupants, has the authority and responsibility to return to the closest part of base property, and call Security, who will inform ALL the parents to pick up and take home their kids. Again, the majority of law-abiding students and their parents suffer.

Unaccompanied minors below the age of 18 are prohibited from using the NEX and MWR facilities during certain hours of the school day to reduce the amount of truancy at the school, and yes, the entire population suffers.

The guardians of these disrespectful, immature kids cannot be enablers; they cannot be in denial; tough love vice misguided support for inappropriate behavior is necessary. The majority of our community can not be expected to be inconvenienced by youngsters who, due to their own boredom, poor self esteem, previous poor discipline or lack of principles, have made their decision to not be part of the Sigonella team.

The XO and I will continue to use the administrative tools at our disposal to protect the community. These include banishment from the NEX/Commissary, MWR facilities and other base privileges, total exclusion from the base, or early return of dependents to the continental United States.

I'm asking for all parents to discuss acceptable standards of conduct with their kids. I'm asking for the support of all adults on the base, including military members, civilians and dependents to become involved, to recognize they are role models, their conduct admired and imitated; please send the right message to all our students. I promise to ensure parents receive better two-way communication with the DoDDs school, the NASSIG schools officer, the Security Department and the command administration. I will also press for swift and appropriate justice for those disrespecting the rights of the rest of us. We all deserve the best quality of life that this base can offer. Please join me in protecting our lifestyle, environment and reputation.

The Pulse

How to avoid Kamikaze Mosquitoes

By Lt. Michael Morton

Contributing writer

It's about that time of the year again when the evil bloodsuckers begin their attacks. If you happen to be popular with mosquitoes, you'll need to know a few things. How to repel mosquitoes, how to kill mosquitoes, and how to treat mosquito bites.

You've heard people say that mosquitoes like me. Well, that's true. Certain people seem to attract mosquitoes more than others.

-Adults are more likely to be bitten than kids, though adults become less appetizing as they age.

-Men are more likely to be bitten than women.

-Larger people are more likely to be bitten than smaller ones.

What you need to know about repellents

DEET is the most effective insect repellent for mosquitoes, flies, ticks and fleas. It has been used worldwide for over 50 years, and has been proven to be remarkably safe. About 200 million people around the world use it each year.

You can buy DEET containing creams, solutions, and aerosols etc. from many different companies. These products will contain anywhere from five to 100 percent. So how do you choose the right product for you? Here are some basic guidelines:

-10-30 percent will provide enough protection under most circumstances.

-Don't use products containing more than 10 percent on kids

-The higher the concentration of DEET, the longer the repelling action lasts...but there's a higher risk that it might hurt you. It can cause central nervous system effects, allergic reactions and short-term heart problems but this is very rare.

-DEET can damage plastics, many synthetic fabrics, leather, and painted or varnished surfaces.

-It will reduce the effectiveness of most sunscreens, if you'll be in the sun it is advised to use a product that combines it and sunscreen.

For our naturalists out there, there are a few "natural" products for repelling bugs. But, they are not as effective as DEET and will not last as long.

-Soybean oil repels mosquitoes for three to four hours.

-Citronella oil has to be reapplied every one to two hours.

-B-vitamins have no real evidence of working (but don't tell my grandmother that!)

Forget about repelling; tell me how to kill the bloodsuckers!

Bug zappers don't work on mosquitoes (don't tell my dad that); they are more attracted to people than zappers.

You can buy sprays containing permethrin. These not only repel mosquitoes, flies, ticks, and chiggers but will also kill them on contact. Permethrin should be applied directly to clothing, tent walls, etc. but not on your skin. The spray will last about two weeks and will even keep working through several washings. If you use DEET repellent on your skin in combination with permethrin on your clothing, you're most likely to escape mosquito bites.

I still got bit, now what?

Treat bites with a topical corticosteroid like hydrocortisone. Oral antihistamines, like benadryl, can reduce the itching and reddening you get with mosquito bites. If you are really sensitive to bites, take an antihistamine before you go into the mosquito zone.

Letters to the Editor

Go Team!

I would like to thank the Sigonella Mens Soccer Team for the great times I had getting to watch you play. You all are highly respected by the teams you faced and the league president. The season is over for now, but I'm ready for next year. And if the team takes first place, the chicken is on me.

-Dan the Crazy Soccer Fan

Candle Safety

With the onset of summer the flies, bugs and mosquitoes will start to irritate and annoy us to the point we will start to use insect sprays and citronella candles to ward off these pests. In rare and isolated cases, the aerosol propellant in spray insecticides can become flammable when in contact with a flames usually present in hot water heater closets, at the stove, at barbecue grills, campfires, etc. Also citronella candles are readily available and popular to use within the house to ward off mosquitoes. Candles are often placed in bedroom where they are subject to accidental impact or contact with curtains, lampshades, and similar combustible material. Bedrooms are the most hazardous locations to use candles, where 45 percent of all candle related fires occur. The National Candle Association recommends the following:

· Never leave burning candles unattended.

· Never place burning candles near anything that can catch fire.

· Keep burning candles from small children and pets.

Example, candles attract moths, the cat chases the moth, knocks over the candle. Other tips for candle safety:

· Keep candles away from drafts and vents

· Don't burn candles longer than four hours.

· Use the container the candle came in.

· Do not melt wax on stove for remix.

· Discard candles when half the wax is gone.

Remember, candles cannot be lit in the barracks aboard Station. They can be used for decoration or scent purposes only.

-Stephen P. Vitek

Disgruntled Community

Recently, the *Signature* has received a few letters to the editor that vividly berate specific commands, insulting fellow co-workers and community related departments. The *Signature* is not, and will not be a venue for community members to gripe without going through proper channels. For those who are not aware, the chain of command is quite large and it works when you use it. If you aren't receiving the help you require by customer service or by departments, there is always someone higher for you to turn to. If you are not willing to exhaust proper venues then we can not help you either. The *Signature* is used for information and morale, not hate and loathing. Thank you for your cooperation.

-JO3 Price, Managing Editor

KITCHEN KORNER

Smashed Antipasto Olives

Bea Cook

Contributing writer

1-1/2 cups black olives

1/4 cup red onion, diced

1/4 cup celery, diced

1 teaspoon garlic, minced

1/2 teaspoon oregano

1/4 teaspoon sugar

1/2 cup white wine vinegar

1/4 cup water

2 tablespoons olive oil

Keep this relish-type dish in the refrigerator for up to two months. Smash the olives on a cutting board with the side of a large knife. Toss with the remaining ingredients. Cover and refrigerate at least overnight. Serve with cold cheese and meat plates.

S.A.F.

Dogs: 7

Cats: 2

Puppies: 1

Kittens: 9



Call 624-3200 for the Stray Animal Facility if you are looking for a particular animal (ie. Breed, size, color or age).



THE SIGNATURE
Sigonella, Sicily

U.S. asks can you? Will you?
of NATO hopefuls

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Nine countries are lined up seeking admission into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in November.

The fact that so many emerging democracies are looking to join begs the question of whether the North Atlantic alliance is relevant in the post-Cold War world, said Lord George Robertson, secretary-general of the alliance.

The nine countries seeking admission are Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Romania, Bulgaria, Albania, and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. During a meeting in Prague, Czech Republic, in November, the heads of state of the 19 NATO countries will announce which countries will be invited to join the alliance.

A senior defense official said the United States is looking at NATO enlargement through the lens of two questions. First, how will the admission of the candidate country promote and protect NATO’s values and interests?” Second, how enduring will the applicant country’s commitment be to those responsibilities? What lies behind these questions is a vision of Europe free and undivided, a Europe allowed to grow in peace. “This is in some ways driven by a desire to have a Europe that is even more effective and more capable partner with the United States in promoting our common interests,” said the senior official.

In other words, a divided Europe may face security challenges. That Europe would be less able to work with the United States. It is in the United States’ interest that democracy flourish in Europe and that the democracies band together. But NATO is not a club that anyone can join. The nations invited must be ready to shoulder the responsibilities of membership. They must bring capabilities to the alliance.

“Like current members, (the candidate countries) have a variety of different levels and capabilities,” the senior official said. “The question is do they bring a net gain to the alliance?” That call is made based on judgments on what the various nations’ politics are, what their economies are, what military capabilities they bring, and how their membership affects the alliance geopolitically.

This is the second round of enlargement since the end of the Cold War. In 1999, the 50th anniversary of the alliance, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Poland joined NATO. “The round of enlargement in 1999 will significantly influence this round,” the defense official said.

“We have a better sense of what to look for,” he continued. It benefits applicants because they have a better grasp of what to expect.

The official said the applicants are better prepared this time in part because of NATO’s Membership Action Plan. The plan lays out many of the goals candidate countries need to meet to qualify for membership. Some of the countries have been working on their plans since NATO instituted the program in 1997.

Another leg up for many of these countries is their membership in the Partnership for Peace program, formed in 1994. This program enables both applicant countries and others, such as Uzbekistan, to meet and exercise with NATO nations.

Candidate countries have also demonstrated their value and commitment through their contributions to the Stabilization Force in Bosnia and the Kosovo Force. From a U.S. perspective, “European applicants have

made contributions to U.S. operations that demonstrate the relevance and value and geographic value of NATO enlargement,” said the official. Many of the countries also are part of the international coalition arrayed against global terrorism.

Once the countries become members of NATO, they will be treated as all current members are. “There is no halfway house, no junior partnership (in NATO),” said the official. “They will receive all the rights and benefits of membership, and they will assume the responsibilities of membership and face the same expectations.”

The official said the experience of the addition of the three countries in 1999 was worthwhile. He said they have fulfilled all NATO commitments with expediency and enthusiasm. “I think when you look at those new members, one could argue that they bring a refreshing trans-Atlantic perspective,” he said. “My sense is any new allies would do the same.”

The official said these new countries value the Euro-Atlantic relationship. “They see NATO as relevant, they see NATO’s charter as mutually beneficial on both sides of the Atlantic. They want to be in NATO because they value NATO,” he said.

FCC offers tips to help save
money on long distance calls

By Rudi Williams
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (NNS)— “Calling Home: What You Should Know” is the title of a new Federal Communications Commission (FCC) brochure that tells service members overseas and stateside how to save money when keeping in touch with families and friends via telephones.

The brochure is packed with information about making long distance contact cheaper for defense personnel and their families, according to K. Dane Snowden, chief of the FCC Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau in Washington.

“The FCC is trying to educate people about what their options and rights are,” Snowden said during a recent interview. “We’ve created a brochure that we’ll distribute to military installations across the country and abroad so everyone will have this information at their fingertips.

“The brochure contains different calling options,” Snowden noted. “It tells consumers what to ask a carrier before they sign up for a particular calling plan, explains what a ’10-10’ dollar round plan is and tells them where they can go should they have any problems with a carrier.”

All consumers will find the tips helpful, but the FCC designed the program specifically for military personnel. Snowden said all the information is in a central location, either in the brochure or through the FCC Web site at www.fcc.gov/cgb. The toll-free number is 1-888-CALL-FCC (1-888-225-5322). The TTY number is 1-888-TELL-FCC (1-888-835-5322).

“We encourage military personnel, DoD civilian employees and their families and friends to find out what’s best for them based on their calling pattern, then get on a calling plan,” Snowden said. “It’s important for them to know what their options are. Our goal is to save them money, so we felt it was appropriate for us to get involved and share information we have with our military families.”

He said one of the most important questions to ask a carrier is if the carrier has a military option plan? “A lot of carriers are providing the option of military plans for defense personnel,” Snowden said. Snowden said most people don’t realize they need to shop around for the best deal in telephone service “as we would do for a

car or dishwasher.”

“If you have access to the Internet, check out the different carrier’s Web sites. If they have a search button, look for ‘military plans,’” Snowden said. People who don’t own a personal computer can log into a friend’s computer, find access in most libraries and find inexpensive “Internet cafes” while traveling abroad, he added.

MARS, the Military Affiliate Radio System, is another inexpensive method of staying in touch with families and friends, Snowden said. The service is also available from civilian MARS stations that are operated by individuals certified as MARS operators by the Amateur Radio Relay League. Telegram messages, known as “MARS Grams,” are also sent over the MARS for hand-delivery or delivery by mail.

Prepaid calling cards can be money savers, but consumers should be careful about which ones they buy, Snowden pointed out. “We encourage all consumers to read the fine details on the prepaid calling cards and ensure they’re from a reputable company,” he said. “It’s also important to realize what the costs are. For example, if it’s 30 minutes for \$10, it’s important to understand what the first minute cost and what hook-up fees are. That way you prevent getting five minutes worth of calling and 25 minutes worth of fees associated with it.” Military exchanges offer prepaid cards in varying amounts, however, Snowden points out that service members should still compare costs.

“Just because it’s sold in the exchange doesn’t mean it’s the best rate,” he said. “Some service providers give discount minutes to defense personnel on their prepaid cards. Read the card carefully for costs associated with international calls.”

Snowden warns people not confuse calling cards with prepaid calling cards. “Using a calling card doesn’t necessarily guarantee a low rate and rarely carries the lower rate that applies to a domestic calling plan,” he explained.

The toll-free 1-800 or 1-888 numbers are good options for people in the United States who make calls to a single long distance number within the country. “Toll-free numbers often provide the lowest rate alternative for calls made to one number,” Snowden said. Cell phones are convenient, but they don’t work everywhere and they can be expensive, he warns.

Callers can use the international callback service to call anywhere in the world and pay U.S. rates. “You call your U.S. service provider and they’ll connect you or ‘callback’ with an American dial tone,” Snowden said. However, he emphasized that, “This service should be researched and discussed with the service provider before leaving the United States.”

Dialing collect is another option, however, Snowden advises against using it because it’s so expensive. He said prepaid calling cards or a calling plan is less expensive. Snowden said military base phone banks are another inexpensive way to stay in touch with family and friends. But the demand is so great that it can be difficult to get access. The brochure is also being sent to armed forces family centers worldwide and military-affiliated associations and organizations.

“We want to ensure that armed forces personnel and their families know the FCC is available to provide them with telecom information, help with their telecom complaints and address any of their other telecom needs,” Snowden said.

The “Calling Home” campaign, which was launched this month, is slated to run for a year, but will be lengthened if needed, Snowden said. “Our goal is to get information in the hands of all service personnel and defense civilian employees to help them save money when keeping in touch with their families and friends.”



Deadline for Tax Filing

If you haven’t filed your taxes yet, now is the time. Deadline for overseas filers is June 15. The Tax Center will be open on Saturday, June 15, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. This is the absolute last day to file taxes.

Join the Boy Scouts

If you are a boy between the ages of 11 and 18 and want some adventure in your life, come join Troop 53, Boy Scouts of America. This will be an excellent opportunity to learn leadership skills, different trades, and to push yourself to your limits. The Boy Scouts is also looking for adult volunteers.

Dog Wash

Hey dog owners, how about a break for you? Bring your dog by for a bath tomorrow between 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the parking lot between AFN and the new Veterinarian Clinic on NAS I. The funds raised will support the Sigonella Animal Welfare Society (S.A.W.S.), an organization designed for the upkeep and care of stray animals located on government property. Sodas, various baked goods and of course dog biscuits for purchase. Stop by and let us get Scruffy clean!

Sure Start

Sure Start applications for four year olds are now being accepted for the 2002/03 school year. Applications must be submitted to the Stephen Decatur Elementary School registrar no later than August 14, 2002 for consideration. If you have previously applied, a current LES needs to be resubmitted to the Stephen Decatur Elementary School registrar. For more information, please call the school’s main office at x4281.

CPR Course

Learn the skills necessary to care forbreathing and cardiac emergencies on infants, children and adults. Call the Red Cross for registration information at x5921.

SDS Award Ceremonies

The end of the year has come once again, and it’s time to award those who’ve earned it. Middle school Award Ceremony will be June 12, 1 p.m. at the MPR room. High school (grades 9-11) will be held on June 13, 8 a.m. at the MPR room. Bring your camcorders and cheer on your kids!

Chili Cook-Off

The Red Cross is holding its first Annual Chili Cook-off. Come see if you’re chili is the best in all of Sigonella. The winner will receive a certificate and have their chili sold, proceeds will go to the Red Cross volunteer program. Call the today for rules and requirements, x5921.

Lifeguard Training Course

Starting June 10 through 15, Red Cross will be conducting Lifeguard Training- Course. Earn money this summer and have fun too by becoming a lifeguard. You’ll learn the following certifications: Lifeguarding and First Aid, AED Essentials, CPR for the Professional Rescuer, Oxygen Administration and Preventing Disease Transmission. For prerequisite information please inquire at the Red Cross office. Call the Red Cross Office for more information 624-5921/5446.

NJP Results



An E-6 was found guilty of drunken operation of a vehicle and was awarded 45 days restriction (suspended), 45 days extra duty (suspended), forfeiture of \$1,096 pay per month for two months (suspended), and reduction to the next inferior pay grade.

An E-3 was found guilty of assault and disorderly conduct, drunkenness and was awarded 30 days restriction, 30 days extra duty, forfeiture of \$651 pay per month for one month, and recommendation for advancement was taken away.

Sigonellan represents Navy and wins gold

By SN Michelle Watkins

Staff writer

Clocks ticking quickly by, AO2 Jason Ramsey races down the track. Sweat pouring down his face; he pursues the one in the lead and sprints by, winning the race. With his head held high he jogs his cool-down, knowing that he represents the United States Navy.

Arriving to the Decathlon Invitational in Des Moines, Ramsey did not think that he would make it. He had recently pulled out of the Drake Relays three weeks earlier due to a torn calf muscle.

In the sixth event he re-tore his calf muscle. “I had to go under the bleachers and talk to myself, I started thinking about all the hard work I put in, all the guys that pulled me through, who went down to the track with me when it was 100 degrees outside, all the little things, keeping me motivated,” said Ramsey. Remembering all his hard work and what he did to get there kept him going.

Going into his last event, Ramsey did not have a big lead over second place. Being hurt, he was sure that he would end in second place. “But I sucked it up, gutted it through, and held on to the end,” Ramsey said. Despite his injury Ramsey not only won the race but won gold as well. “I wasn’t so happy that I had gotten first as I was that I completed it,” said Ramsey. This win established Ramsey as a decathlon athlete of the United States. His name is now on a list, which could qualify him for the 2004 Olympic trials. A Decathlon consists of 10 events. The order of events are the 100-meter dash, long jump, shot-put, high jump, 400-meter run, 110-meter high hurdles, discus, pole vault, javelin, and 1500-meter run.

Ramsey has been training for Decathlons for 10 years. He started his first Decathlon in high school, winning the high school nationals his senior year, turning professional a few years after college. Ramsey holds seven National Collegiate Athletic Association All-American titles and 15 Middle America Intercollegiate MVP awards. So far he has competed 35 to 40 decathlons, four in his Navy career and plans to do more. An average of two to four hours are spent a day just training. He spends long hours in the weight room and runs six days a week, sometimes working out twice a day. He also puts in long hours at the track.

Since he has no coach here Ramsey coaches himself. He watches training tapes of technical events such as the shot-put and discus. Ramsey was proud to represent the Navy among top athletes. “Being sponsored by the Military, especially now the way times are, it makes you take a little extra pride.” He thanks MWR for contributing money, his wife, Jenny; his friend and co-worker Giangrosso, for motivation; his supervisor and department for allowing him the time to train and for their continued support.

By Alberto Lunetta
Community Relations

Italian News

SICILIAN CULTURE AND LIFESTYLE

Strawberry Festival in Maletto

From June 7 - 9, the “Sagra della Fragola” an exciting Strawberry Festival kicks off in Maletto a picturesque town nestled in the northwest slopes of Etna. The Sagra features strawberry delicacies, arts and crafts, food stalls, musical acts, entertainment, and more for the whole family to enjoy.

Today, Saturday and Sunday, the festival grounds will open in piazza XXIV Maggio and piazza IV Novembre, the city’s main squares, at 6 p.m.

On June 9, stands will also open in the morning at 9 a.m. Later, at noon, festivalgoers can taste a strawberry risotto and strawberry fruit salad at 4 p.m. In the evening, at 6 p.m. festival attendees can sample a majestic 2500-pound strawberry cake, the real highlight of the sagra.

Booths selling local cheeses such as Provola and Pecorino and other delicious foods will also be open to tempt your palate.

Music shows will be performed every night at 9 p.m. in piazza IV Novembre.

Before you leave the festival, visit the ruins of the 13th century castle that sit atop a rock located in via Petrina in the historic center of Maletto.

The Chiesa (church) San Michele Arcangelo is another must-see stop. It dates back to the 15th century and features a magnificent bell tower that was recently restored.

Situated opposite this church, there is a mesmerizing lava stone fountain nicknamed “U schicciu,” which in Sicilian means the squirt.

You can reach Maletto by taking the Catania-Bronte road n.121. Once you arrive in Bronte drive through the city and take national road 284 toward Maletto.

Cheese Festival begins in Ragusa

Plan a trip to Ragusa and make plans to enjoy “Cheese Art 2002,” one among the most important food events annually held in Sicily. This festival is not only about cheese and gourmet food but it is a tantalizing journey in the Sicilian, European and Mediterranean culture, history and traditions.

“Cheese Art 2002” is an event aimed at promoting farmstead, traditional and other home-made cheeses crafted by skilled cheese makers.

The event, which features 56 food stands displaying 230 kind of cheeses from the US, Europe (France, Greece, Italy), North Africa (Tunisia, Morocco) and other southern Mediterranean countries, also presents the best Sicilian wines (Donnafugata, Planeta, Cusumano), olive oils, salami and other traditional produces. The bewitching atmosphere of the Castello (Castle) di Donnafugata in Ragusa will be the backdrop for this amazing food event. The castle is located 10 miles outside Ragusa and it is easy to reach. Exit Ragusa Ovest (west) on the Catania-Ragusa national road and follow directions for Castello di Donnafugata.

World-renowned researchers, dieticians, and food and wine experts will also hold conferences, seminars on cheese and wine making, health properties of dairy produce, food safety and more. International renowned chefs will show their art of cooking during workshops.

For more information and fees call Cheese Art 2002 Press Office at 0932-619315.

Mineo celebrates Religious Festival

On Sunday, Mineo will hold a religious festi-

val in honor of the “Regina degli Angeli” (Virgin Mary Queen of Angels). The origin of the festival, which was established as an official royal feast in 1643 by Spanish king Filippo VI, actually dates back to 1072 when Count Ruggero donated to the Chiesa di S. Maria (Church of S. Maria) a beautiful alabaster statue depicting the Virgin Mary holding baby Jesus. At the time, it was decided to celebrate the festival on the second Sunday after Easter. Throughout the centuries, earthquakes damaged the statue several times. Originally, the statue had a wooden halo that featured holy pictures inspired by the litanies in honor of the Virgin Mary. Later in the 16th century, a silver one that was made by a goldsmith from Catania replaced the wooden halo. The crowns featured in the statue date back to the time of the Spanish occupation in Sicily.

Starting at 7 p.m., barefoot devotees, screaming in Sicilian: “Viva la Riggina di l’Ancili” (Long live the Queen of Angels), carry on their shoulders the statue depicting Mary with baby Jesus throughout Mineo. During the procession, devotees also carry tall wax candles while fireworks and music shows are performed.

Procession itinerary includes: Chiesa S. Maria Maggiore, via Ducezio, via Carlo Alberto, piazza Buglio, via Paolo Maura, Chiesa S. Agrippina, via Umberto I, piazza Buglio, via Trinacria, the S. Pietro Steps, Chiesa S. Pietro, via L. Capuana, Chiesa S. Francesco, via Roma, S. Maria Maggiore square, via Salita Castello, Ducezio Castle, via Salita Castello and Chiesa S. Maria Maggiore.

These celebrations involve all Mineo community that gathers to express its devotion to the Virgin Mary. For the occasion, many people who are originally from Mineo but live abroad come back to participate in the festival showing their faith and carrying the statue as this festa (festival) is one of

the only ties remaining that unifies them with their homeland.



Photo courtesy of Mineo Tourist Office

This beautiful alabaster statue depicting the Virgin Mary holding baby Jesus is carried by barefoot devotees throughout the historic center of Mineo during the religious festival in honor of the “Regina degli Angeli” (Virgin Mary Queen of Angels) on Sunday. The festival, which dates back to 1072, features religious processions, music and fireworks shows.

AD SPACE



	Friday, June 7	Saturday, June 8	Sunday, June 9	Monday, June 10	Tuesday, June 11	Wednesday, June 12	Thursday, June 13	
Week at a glance	AD SPACE							Week at a glance

For information on community events call MWR at 624-5271.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES: Pleasure trips will be favorable and bring about possible romance. Join groups of a humanitarian nature. Your leadership ability will enhance your reputation. Your boss may not be in the best of moods this week. Do your job and don't ask for favors. Take a short business trip if possible.

TAURUS: Someone close to you will get upset easily if you are insensitive to their needs. Take the time to help those less fortunate. You need to fulfill your needs and present your talents. Take a close look at contracts and agreements that have been offered to you. Your mate may be ready to trade you in if you haven't paid enough attention.

GEMINI: Invite friends or relatives into your home. Residential moves will be beneficial, and larger quarters the most probable direction. You should get out and meet new people this week. Romance is quite possible if you are willing to approach someone who interests you.

CANCER: Opportunities for travel and socializing are evident. Be careful disclosing information. Someone around you may not be trustworthy. You have been so self absorbed that you've forgotten how important your emotional life is. Problems with foreigners or authority figures could lead to confinement or delays.

LEO: Your high energy will enable you to take the role of leader in-group functions. Your suggestions for fund raising events will be well received. This will not be the best week to try to push your ideas or concerns. Your position may be in question if you haven't been pulling your weight. Upgrading at this point is not a bad plan.

VIRGO: Listen to the problems of others and offer suggestions where possible. You will be a real chatterbox today. Try to curb your tongue and let others at least get a word in. You must make sure that all your personal documents are in order. Someone you thought you could trust may be trying to make you look bad.

LIBRA: You will have difficulties with legal matters, government agencies, and authority figures if you aren't precise in your dealings. Problems with female members of your family may play on your emotions. Don't allow harsh words to upset you.

SCORPIO: This will be a very hectic week if you've made promises to too many people. Your willingness to help others can and will lead to fatigue if you don't learn to say no. Be careful of the groups you join or the people you associate with.

SAGITTARIUS: You will have extra energy; put it to good use. Organize social events or family gatherings. You will meet new romantic partners through the company you keep. Underhandedness regarding legal matters or contracts must be counteracted. Be sure to question any detail that you feel could leave you in a precarious position at a later date.

CAPRICORN: After all, they may have valuable information to pass on. Limitations will set in if you haven't followed the rules. If you've cooled down somewhat, you may be ready to make a serious effort at restoring tranquility with your lover.

AQUARIUS: Sudden good fortune will help you cover your debts. Don't be too eager to spend what's left over; more unexpected expenses are evident. You might find it difficult to control your emotions.

PISCES: Your partner will be emotionally unable to cope. Try to take some time to listen to their complaints, and in turn, do something to appease them.



THE MOVIE CONNECTION



Theater Schedule

AD SPACE

*** Future Re-release **Sneak Preview *Last Showing, (PNO- no children admitted)
(All times and movies are subject to change. For more information on the schedule, call the movie hotline at 624-4248).

The Sum of All Fears (Rated PG-13)

Based on Tom Clancy's novel *The Sum of All Fears*, this espionage thriller tracks a sinister plot to draw the United States and Russia into World War III. When the Russian president suddenly dies, world tension escalates and young CIA analyst Jack Ryan must uncover who is behind the conspiracy. Cast: Ben Affleck, Morgan Freeman, Bridget Moynahan.

Changing Lanes (Rated R)

An arrogant attorney in a rush to make a court appointment involving a multi-million dollar trust accidentally collides with a businessman who also is in a rush for a court appointment, involving custody of his children. Rather than swap insurance information, the lawyer hastily writes a blank check to the businessman and leaves the scene of the accident, stranding the businessman and causing him to miss his custody hearing. In court the attorney discovers that the folder with the documentation he is to present is missing. He must have left it at the scene of the accident. The judge gives the attorney until the end of the day to present the papers. Cast: Samuel L. Jackson, Ben Affleck, Sydney Pollack.

TRIVIA

The invention of the parachute was in 1783, by whom?
What is a cordwainer?
What is the largest populated country in Africa?
What was the original name of Pepsi-cola?
What root is tequila made of?
(Answers on page 7)

Best Sellers--Scooters

Mini Micro Preschool Scooter
Barbie 2K 10" Scooter
Razor Scooter
12" Twilight Scooter
Roll-to-Pro Scooter



They did what? Snake Charmer

Snakes flick their forked tongues in the air to "smell" the world, collecting molecules then pressing the tips into small olfactory pits. An inebriated twenty-year-old man took umbrage when a wild rattlesnake stuck out its tongue at him. Tit for tat! He held the snake in front of his face and stuck his tongue out right back at the rattler. The snake expressed his displeasure at this turn of events by biting the conveniently offered body part. The toxic venom swelled the man's face and throat, choking him to death.

Off the Rack! Poltergeist



I know what you're thinking, why do an "off the rack" from a movie that came out 20 years ago back in 1982. To tell you the truth, this week was the first time in my life that I have seen this flick. When my wife found out that I had never seen it, she grabbed it right away and forced me to watch.

For those of you who don't know or can't remember, Stephen Spielberg produced it shortly after E.T. and Raiders of the Lost Arc. The industry Light and Magic (the same people who worked with George Lucas on Star Wars 4-6) put together an amazing, phantasmal display. While we're in the age of gore, darkness and startling surprise to make our horror films, *Poltergeist*, the 20-year-old film I remind you, had a different way of making my heart race.

While it was a rather old movie, it still brought me worry and suspense. Worry for the little girl trapped and screaming, suspense when the high-pitched demon watcher shouting commands.

To give a little information about the film itself, the movie starts very pleasant, but keeps you wary, because you know something is going to happen. The Freeling family is pretty ordinary, until the day the littlest daughter gives the ever-haunting phrase, "they're here." After that day, the house goes through odd occurrences that shift the everyday life pretty fast, until the day the house swallows itself whole.

They grew around the phenomenon that are the poltergeists, learning to accept the sliding chairs and flying lamps, until the day they can get their daughter back. Soon, they get help from professional ghost doctors that have not quite seen something like this.

The best part about this film was seeing how well Spielberg was doing in the late 70s, into the 80s, 90s and today, piecing together his work from E.T., Indiana Jones, Jurassic Park and Saving Private Ryan. As for *Poltergeist* itself, you'll just have to rent it yourself and relive the memories.

By JO3 Jay Price

AFN Sigonella television schedule

CET	Friday, June 7	Saturday, June 8	Sunday, June 9	Monday, June 10	Tuesday, June 11	Wednesday, June 12	Thursday, June 13	Friday, June 14	CET	
00:00	ESPN News	ESPN News	Sports cont.	Sports cont.	ESPN News	ESPN News	ESPN News	ESPN News	00:00	
00:30	Movie: <i>The Bradv Bunch</i>	Movie: <i>Octooussv</i>	Saturday Night Live	Headline News	Movie: <i>Weird Science</i>	<i>Proograming TBD</i>	Movie: <i>Patton</i>	Movie: <i>The Green Berets</i>	00:30	
01:00									Seinfeld	01:00
01:30									Spin City	01:30
02:00									Entertainment Tonight	02:00
02:30	Movie: <i>When a Man Loves a</i>	Movie: <i>The Awful Truth</i>	It's Showtime at the Apollo	WWF Superstars	Movie: <i>In the Line of Fire</i>			Movie: <i>Airplane</i>	02:30	
03:00				America's Black Forum					03:00	
03:30				Meet the Press					03:30	
04:00				Headline News					04:00	
04:30	ABC World News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	ESPN News	ABC World News	ABC World News	ABC World News	04:30	
05:00	ESPN News								05:00	
05:30	NBC Nightly News								05:30	
06:00	Sesame Street								06:00	
06:30		NBC Nightly News	Coral Ridge Hour	Sesame Street	Sesame Street	Richard Scarry	Sesame Street	Sesame Street	06:30	
07:00	Teletubbies	Dragon Tales	Christopher Closeup	Harold and the Purple Crayon	Wheel of Fortune	Oprah Winfrey	Blues Clues	Teletubbies	07:00	
07:30	Wheel of Fortune	Clifford	Cafe Video	Wheel of Fortune	Oprah Winfrey	Port Charles	Wheel of Fortune	Wheel of Fortune	07:30	
08:00	Oprah Winfrev	Mary Kate & Ashley	Little Bear	Oprah Winfrey			Oprah Winfrev	Oprah Winfrey	08:00	
08:30		The Odd Parents	Reading Rainbow		Port Charles				08:30	
09:00	Port Charles	Jackie Chan	Familv Movie:	Port Charles	Guidina Light		Guiding Light	Port Charles	Port Charles	09:00
09:30	Guiding Light	In the Mix				General Hospital		Guiding Light	09:30	
10:00	General Hosital	Junkvard Wars						Guiding Light	10:00	
10:30			Cinema Secrets	General Hospital				General Hospital	10:30	
11:00	Headline News	This Old House	Outward Bound	Headline News	Headline News		Judge Judy	Headline News	Headline News	11:00
11:30	Judge Judy	Motor Week	At the Movies	Judge Judy	Judge Judy	Today	Judge Judy	Judge Judy	11:30	
12:00	Today	Entertainment Tonight	Headline News	Today	Today		Today	Today	12:00	
12:30		WWF Smackdown	Air Force News						12:30	
13:00			Sports						13:00	
13:30						Hey Arnold			13:30	
14:00	Arthur		my time and nose	Winnie the Pooh	Mighty Ducks	Disney's Mouseworks	Rugrats	Arthur	14:00	
14:30	The Proud Family	King of Queens		Wild Thornberries	As Told by Ginger	Croc Files	Squigglevision	The Proud Family	14:30	
15:00	7th Heaven	Enterprise	WWF Superstars	Horrible Histories	Nick News	Bonehead	Pokemon	7th Heaven	15:00	
15:30				Even Stevens	The Amanda Show	Jeopardy!	Men in Black		15:30	
16:00	Jeopardy!	Law & Order	Andromeda	Jeopardy!	Jeopardy	Headline News	Jeopardy!	Jeopardy!	16:00	
16:30	Headline News			Headline News	Headline News	ESPN News	Headline News	Headline News	16:30	
17:00	CNN	Headline News	Sports	ESPN News	ESPN News	Headline News	ESPN News	CNN	17:00	
17:30	Headline News	Navy/Marine Corps News		Headline News	Headline News	The Steve Harvey Show	Headline News	Headline News	17:30	
18:00	The Simpsons	Sports		60 Minutes	7th Heaven	Bernie Mac Show	Dharma & Greg	The Simpsons	18:00	
18:30	Malcolm in the Middle	Sports				Dark Angel	Titus	Malcolm in the Middle	18:30	
19:00	World Records			The West Winn	Movie: <i>Frequency</i>		Fraiser	World Records	19:00	
19:30							Scrubs		19:30	
20:00	Alias					NYPD Blue	Boston Public	ER	Alias	20:00
20:30									20:30	
21:00	Headline News			Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	21:00	
21:30	Tonight Show w/ Jav Leno			Tonight Show w/Jay Leno	Tonight Show w/Jay Leno	Tonight Show w/ Jav Leno	Tonight Show w/Jay Leno	Tonight Show w/ Jay Leno	21:30	
22:00									22:00	
22:30	Late Show w / Letterman			Late Show w/Letterman	Late Show w/Letterman	Late Show w / Letterman	Late Show w/Letterman	Late Show w / Letterman	22:30	
23:00									23:00	
23:30				ESPN News	ESPN News				23:30	

Sigonella, host country militaries and police join efforts for Police Force Day



Photo by SN Michelle Watkins

Sigonella celebrated Police Force Day to bring American and Italian Law Enforcement together in a non-working environment. There were demonstrations performed by U.S. Navy Security, Carabinieri, Guardia di Finanzia, Polizia di Stato, Polizia Municipale, and Polizia Provinciala. Demonstrations showed different approaches to criminal activity such as terrorists, mob control, drug busts, and fleeing robbers. A barbeque followed the event.

SIG SPORTS

By Doug Hasselbring, Athletic Director

Mt. Etna Classic Individual Golf Tournament: June 15
This is your chance to see how good you really are. No teammates, no gimmicks...no funny stuff - just pure golf. Handicap required. Come to the mandatory players meeting on June 13, at 4 p.m. in Jox Sports Bar with your registration fee. You'll enjoy a beautiful day on the links at Il Picciolo Golf Club with lunch included. Tee time is 9 a.m. Transportation will be provided. For more information, call Ron at x2710.

Intramural Summer Basketball: Season Begins June 17
What time is it? Game time, it's time to set some picks, roll to the hoop and lay up that sweet finger roll that you've been working on all year. Block out, clean the boards, nice little lefty hook! You better bring your "A" game because we're ready to ball. If you missed the coaches meeting on June 3, call Ron at x2710 for more info. All games will be played on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays in the NAS II Gym. See you on the court!

4-on-4 Sand Volleyball: Coaches Meeting - June 17, 4 p.m. NAS II Gym

We know it's hard to put together a team of six players who can regularly show up to the games. No matter how small your command is, you have to be able to find four volleyballers. Don't forget, you can pick up two non-command players! If you play, you will have fun. We guarantee it! The season will begin on June 25. All

games will be played at the sand court on NAS II. Trophies will be awarded to the top three teams in regular and post season play. Don't miss out. For more information, call Ron at x2710.

Softball Schedule: June 7 – 13

Fri. June 7 – A league
4:45 Security vs. COMSTA
6:00 PWD vs. Security
7:15 TSC vs. AIMD

8:30 Weapons vs. Supply
Mon. June 10 – B league
4:45 AIMD vs. COMSTA
6:00 HC 4 vs. Supply

7:15 FLC vs. NAVHOSP
8:30 VP 10 vs. Admin

Tue. June 11 – A league
4:45 AIMD vs. Supply
6:00 Security vs. COMSTA
7:15 PWD vs. Suppply

8:30 TSC vs. Weapons
Wed. June 12 – Ladies
4:45 MWR- no game

6:00 AIMD vs. COMSTA
7:15 Security vs. Supply

8:30 AIMD vs. Admin (B league)
Thurs. June 13 – B league
4:45 HC 4 vs. OPS

6:00 ETD vs. EOD
7:15 FLC vs. COMSTA
8:30 VP 10 vs. Supply

AD SPACE